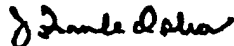


SATOH et al.  
Q78098  
Preliminary Amendment

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to correct improper multiple dependencies. The public should be advised that the present Preliminary Amendment is not considered or intended to be a narrowing amendment surrendering any equivalents. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 30, 2003